

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, June 16, 1885, with transcript

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL TO MABEL (Hubbard) BELL Washington, D. C. June 16th, 1885. Dear May:

Success at last. I believe I have now found the solution of my Lovejoy problem. Following up indications obtained from the Census returns — I went to Congressional Library to hunt up any town histories concerning places where my Lovejoys had lived.

The last book I looked at was a History of Amherst New Hampshire and there I find what I believe to be the ancestor of all my deaf-mutes with his descent from John Lovejoy of Andover. Although I had not money enough to leave a deposit — Mr. Spofford has allowed me to keep book over night.

I feel as jealous of my book as a starving dog of a bone. I don't know where I can be safe from intrusion while I study details — so I have secured a room — (Where I won't tell you!!) — and send this note that you may not be alarmed at absence. Don't wait dinner if I am not back in time. May remain out till ten.

Your loving husband, Alec. (Note from Mabel G.Bell on back of letter) I discovered him after inquiry at Welcher's Hotel from where the messenger boy come — and all other hotels safe in the school house where I felt sure he must be seeing he had no money to hire a room where he was not known — I brought him home to dinner.